GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1003
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2003
UTILIZATION OF WASTE FOREST LAND
MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to utilize the waste forest land;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefore; and

(d) the details of forest land and the area of waste forest land at present, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T. R. BAALU)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. Government is implementing the National Afforestation Programme during the 10th Five Year Plan for improvement of forests with people`s participation.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Forest Survey of India estimates the forest and tree cover of the country. As per their State of Forest Report, 2001,the recorded forest area of the country is 768436 square kilometers. The report estimates the forest cover of the country at 675538 square kilometers. Of this, 258729 square kilometers is Open Forests. In addition, 47318 square kilometers has been put under the category of Scrub area. Statement of state-wise details is at Annexure.

Annexure referred to in reply to part (d) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1003 due for answer on 08-12-2003 Area in SQ.KM

S.No.	Name of State/UT	Recorded Forest Area	Total Forest Cover	Open Forest Area	Scrub Cover
1	Andhra Pradesh	63814	44637	18810	9907
2	Arunachal Pradesh	51540	68045	14113	141
3	Assam	27018	27714	11884	224
4	Bihar	6078	5720	2348	122
5	Chhatisgarh	59285	56448	18568	200
6	Delhi	85	111	73	4
7	Goa	1224	2095	310	0
8	Gujarat	18999	15152	6479	2408
9	Haryana	1551	1754	615	88
10	Himachal Pradesh	37033	14360	3931	566
11	Jammu and Kashmir	20230	21237	9389	3087
12	Jharkhand	23605	22637	10850	976
13	Karnataka	38724	36991	10835	3245
14	Kerala	11221	15560	3788	71
15	Madhya Pradesh	95221	77265	32881	3452
16	Maharashtra	61939	47482	16588	6137
17	Manipur	17418	16926	11216	190
18	Meghalaya	9496	15584	9903	259
19	Mizoram	15935	17494	8558	467
20	Nagaland	8629	13345	7952	47
21	Orissa	58135	48838	20866	5782
22	Punjab	3059	2432	883	30
23	Rajasthan	32494	16367	10045	4925
24	Sikkim	5765	3193	802	341
25	Tamil Nadu	22871	21482	8983	3180
26	Tripura	6293	7065	3602	44
27	Uttar Pradesh	16826	13746	4781	678
28	Uttaranchal	34662	23938	4915	598
29	West Bengal	11879	10693	4347	149
30	A & N Islands	7171	6930	337	0
31	Chandigarh	32	9	4	0

32	D & N Haveli	203	219	68	0
33	Daman & Diu	1	6	4	0
34	Lakshadweep	0	27	0	0
35	Pondicherry	0	36	1	0
	Total	768436	675538	258729	47318